Mr. President : They are meeting only for 4 days in a month.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* The difficulty is this. If one of the members is away on tour it will be difficult for the Board to meet.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* There is no difficulty.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* No difficulty is ever felt by the Board! I appreciate that.

BRIDGES CONNECTING ERNAKULAM AND MATTANCHERI WITH WILLINGDON ISLAND—EXPENDITURE ON

55. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what was the original estimate of expenditure for the bridge works connecting Ernakulam and Mattancheri with Willingdon Island;

(*b*) what is the actual expenditure incurred;

(*c*) if there is any deviation between the estimate and the actuals, what the variation is due to?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) The estimates originally sanctioned for the IV Stage Harbour works had to be amended in the year 1937 and had further to be revised in 1939. The expenditure for the Bridge works according to the original, amended and revised estimates is given below.—

(*i*) Ernakulam-Venduruthi Bridge.—

Original Estimate Rs.	*Amended Estimate* Rs.	*Revised Estimate* Rs.
13,83,680	15,67,500	17,95,779

(*ii*) Venduruthi-Mattancheri Bridge.—

Original Estimate Rs.	*Amended Estimate* Rs.	*Revised Estimate* Rs.
3,89,000	4,51,250	7,62,089

The increase over the original estimate is principally due (1) to the difficulties with the foundation which could not reasonably have

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

been foreseen, and (2) to some of the steel work having cost more than was expected.

(*b*) The actual accounts are not yet available.

(*c*) Vide answers to sub-divisions (*a*) and (*b*).

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know how long it is now since the works have been completed?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The works have not been completed. They are still going on.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* The bridge has been opened.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* But still works are going on.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is it because that the works have not been completed that the accounts are not available?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Out of this amount is any amount paid by the Harbour authorities?

Mr. President: The entire amount.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Was our Government consulted when these amendments and revisions were made?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. President: The estimates were sanctioned by us.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Have we to scrutinise the estimates?

Mr. President: Yes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Are these estimates got scrutinised by experts before they are sanctioned by Government?

Mr. President: As far as the sanction is concerned, we know, we have got a competent engineering staff in the Harbour, and if we are going to minutely scrutinise the estimates, we must have a special staff here. We have confidence in the Harbour staff. But legally, the estimates require our sanction.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* The estimate varies from 3 lakhs to 7 lakhs. Is there any other reason apart from those given in the answer?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* The cost of the steel works has gone up very much.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Have you got figures for the deviation due to the cost of steel and that due to the difficulties of the foundantion?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* No separate figures have been taken.

HARBOUR WORKS AND SHORANUR-COCHIN RAILWAY—EXPENDITURE ON

56. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total amount of money invested by them in the Cochin Harbour works, including reclamation of the Willingdon Island;

(*b*) the total amount of money invested in the Shoranur-Cochin Railway including the extension to Willingdon Island;

(*c*) the amount of any outstanding liability on account of the Cochin Harbour that is still to be paid or adjusted;

(*d*) what is the total amount of acreage reclaimed as Willingdon Island?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Rs. 119·33 lakhs as detailed below.—

Ist Stage including Vypeen Foreshore works	Rs.	0·93 lakhs
2nd Stage	,,	3·00 ,,
4th Stage	,,	63·44 ,,
Dredger	,,	13·33 ,,
Additional warehouse on Willingdon Island	,,	1·13 ,,
Reclamation of 250 acres on Willingdon Island	,,	37·50 ,,
	,,	119·33 ,,

Of this Rs. 77·90 lakhs are loans advanced to the Harbour Authorities towards the IV Stage works, the purchase of the Dredger and the construction of the additional warehouse on Willingdon Island.

(*b*) Rs. 116·71 lakhs (as at the end of March 1940).

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly